

a status that does not connote nationhood. Hong Kong, for example, will retain its separate WTO membership as a special customs region following the July 1, 1997 handover.

Taiwan, our eighth largest trading partner, is currently far closer than the PRC to concluding an accession agreement. The PRC still has a long way to go to meet the free market norms of the WTO. Some 100,000 state-owned enterprises are currently operating in the PRC, accounting for over a third of Communist China's total industrial production, and employing two-thirds of the urban work force.

Unlike the PRC, Taiwan does not seek accession as a developing country, a status that would permit it to delay revocation of a variety of unfair trading practices. Yet the PRC, and its proxies on the Taiwan-WTO working group, insist that Taiwan's accession be linked for political reasons to that of the PRC.

A provision of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act authored by Representative ROHRBACHER, and supported by the Clinton administration and Representative HAMILTON, states that the United States should support Taiwan's application for WTO membership. It passed the House on June 4, 1997. Representative GEPHARDT has introduced more aggressive language, constitutionally suspect, that attempts to require the United States to oppose the PRC's accession to the WTO in the absence of a variety of policy changes. Because the Constitution gives the President, not Congress, the authority to direct the votes and negotiating posture of U.S. representatives in international forums, this vehicle is flawed.

House Concurrent Resolution 190 strengthens the Foreign Relations Authorization Act provision concerning Taiwan's admission to the WTO, but avoids the constitutional problems of the Gephardt approach. It states Congress's support for Taiwan's WTO application and urges that Taiwan be admitted ahead of Communist China, which is not ready for WTO accession.

8. Fighting Missile Proliferation. The Gore-McCain Iran-Iraq Arms Non-Proliferation Act of 1992 requires the President to sanction nations that transfer "destabilizing numbers and types" of advanced conventional weapons to these outlaw nations. Yet when the China National Precision Machinery Import-Export Corporation transferred 60 C-802 cruise missiles to Iran, the administration declined to apply the act's sanctions—despite the fact that 15,000 U.S. troops are stationed within range of the C-802 missiles acquired by Iran, and the fact that the State Department itself has found that "[t]hese cruise missiles pose new, direct threats to deployed United States forces." Indeed, 37 American sailors were killed during Operation Desert Storm when the *U.S.S. Stark* was struck by a cruise missile in the Persian Gulf. And on June 17 it was further reported that Iran and China are jointly developing a new short-range ballistic missile with a 105-mile range.

H.R. 188 expressly finds that the delivery of the C-802 missiles violated the 1992 act, and urges the Administration to obey the law.

9. Free the Clergy Act. International Relations Committee Chairman GILMAN introduced H.R. 967 on March 6, 1997. The bill's findings outline the religious persecution perpetrated by the Communist Chinese against Tibetan Buddhists, Catholic, and other Christian clergy and worshippers. H.R. 967 states it as congressional policy that religious freedom should be a major facet of the President's policy toward China. H.R. 967 prohibits (1) issuance of visas and (2) the use of American funds appropriated for the Department of State, USIA, or AID to pay for the travel of Communist Chinese officials in-

volved in the Patriotic—government-approved churches—in the PRC, or in the formulation or implementation of policies to repress free worship.

10. Opposing Forced Abortion in China. The abhorrent pattern of forced abortion and sterilization countenanced under the state-imposed "one-child policy" is a grisly phenomenon with implications both for religious liberty and for basic human rights. The China policy bill recently introduced by Senator ABRAHAM provides that United States visas shall not be issued to Chinese officials implementing this form of "population control." The bill to be introduced contains this prohibition as a stand-alone piece of legislation.

11. Helping Chinese Political Prisoners in the Laogai. Dissidents—not only well-known individuals such as Wei Jingsheng and Wang Dan, but literally hundreds of thousands of others—are imprisoned without trial or even formal charges. Wei himself has recently been sentenced to a second 14 years, without any semblance of due process. That glaring injustice led two former U.S. Attorneys General to offer to defend him at his December 1995 show trial—an offer Beijing forbade.

The bill expresses America's contempt for this aspect of China's current autocratic rule. The bill authorizes increased funding to permit six diplomats to monitor human rights to be assigned to the Beijing Embassy, and at least one diplomat dedicated to monitoring human rights to be assigned to each U.S. Consulate in China. Currently, only one official in the U.S. Embassy in Beijing is assigned to human rights, and none in U.S. Consulates in the PRC.

12. Encouraging China to Engage in Good-Faith Trade Negotiations. The Chinese Government has thus far failed to propose the kinds of meaningful reductions in trade barriers necessary for it to enter the World Trade Organization. H.R. 1712, introduced by Representatives Bereuter and Ewing, combines a carrot and a stick to motivate China to make the necessary concessions to enter the WTO. The bill requires the President to impose "snapback"—pre-Uruguay Round—tariffs on selected Chinese goods if he determines that the PRC is not "according adequate trade benefits to the United States, including substantially equal competitive opportunities for the commerce of the United States," and "taking adequate steps or making significant proposals to become a WTO member." In addition, bill provides permanent MFN status for Chinese goods if China accedes to the WTO.

On July 31, 1997, I signed a letter to President Bill Clinton responding to reported plans for the White House to certify the 1985 Nuclear Cooperation Agreement between the U.S. and China. The action is anticipated for the fall of 1997.

According to the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, the United States must have a bilateral agreement for nuclear cooperation with any country it seeks to provide with the technologies, materials and services required to build nuclear powerplants or other nuclear facilities. In 1985, such an agreement was negotiated with China.

But before it is implemented, the President must certify to Congress that China has become a reliable and responsible party to the international nonproliferation regime by halting all exports of nuclear technology to nations with unsafeguarded nuclear facilities. No President has thus far been able to certify this for China.

In fact, in February, 1996, it was reported that China had sold 5,000 ring magnets to Pakistan for use in Pakistan's uranium enrichment facility. In the 1980's China secretly constructed a nuclear reactor in Algeria capable of producing nuclear weapons.

China finally confessed to the project when confronted with aerial photographs in 1991.

I mention all of these examples of initiatives I am pursuing in Washington because I believe the people of China need a strong partnership with the United States. Without question the United States will profit greatly from such an association and our humanitarian objectives could also be achieved. The only thing standing in the way has been the Chinese Government.

Obviously, the MFN question is one upon which I devoted considerable time. In the end, after evaluating these and other factors I came to the conclusion that the vote to revoke MFN for China was, without question, in the best interest of Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, and the United States. I will continue to do all I can in my official capacity to see the relationship between China and the United States improved, and the prosperity of our citizens enhanced by it.

PATHWAYS TO FREEDOM BUS TRAGEDY

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 1, 1997

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to comment on the recent tragedy in Emporia, VA, on July 29, 1997. A bus carrying students and chaperones with the Pathways to Freedom program crashed, leaving one person dead and two seriously injured.

Pathways to Freedom is a program started through the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self Development which helps young people learn the values of those who risked their lives for freedom during the Underground Railroad and civil rights movements. The students and chaperones came from all over the United States and the Bahamas to learn where we have been in order to know where we are going. In the words of Lila Cabbil, past president for Institute, those on the bus were not on a field trip, but on one leg of a lifelong journey.

Adisa Foluke, 25, was the sole life lost in this tragic accident. He was extremely dedicated to the Pathways to Freedom program. In the words of Adisa's mother, "He embodied the spirit of the movement. He connected with the children in an exceptional way, and was committed to carrying on Mrs. Parks' legacy."

On a personal note, Adisa regularly stopped by my office, during which time we had many conversations concerning the program and other civic projects in the Detroit area. It was an inspiration to me to see the next generation taking a leadership role in educating others on the importance of remembering the struggle for civil rights.

Pathways to Freedom has made a special effort to ensure that the program will continue its outstanding work of educating young people on American civil rights history. The children want to continue, as they have been inspired by Mrs. Parks, from whom they learn to live their lives differently because of struggle, instead of stopping their lives in the face of adversity.